

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-01 SCCT-01 SY-05 OPR-02 USSS-00

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P R 180724Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3448

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, ET

SUBJECT: FURTHER ASSASSINATIONS IN ASMARA

REF: ASMARA 0578

1. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED REPORTS FROM SEVERAL SOURCES THAT FOUR ALLEGED EPMG INFORMERS HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATED BY ELF. ALL ASSASSINATIONS OCCURRED DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS IN PROMINENT PUBLIC PLACES AND THERE WAS NO CONCERTED PURSUIT OF ASSASSINS BY EITHER POLICE OR MILITARY.

2. ON JULY 15 ALLEGED "CID POLICE" INFORMANT SHOT TO DEATH IN MID-AFTERNOON BY SINGLE ASSASSIN IN FRONT OF RAILWAY STATION. VICTIM
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WAS SMALL LOCAL COMMODITIES BROKER WHO WAS WIDELY KNOWN AS POLICE

INFORMANT. ON JULY 16 ANOTHER ALLEGED INFORMER WHO WAS PHARMA-CEUTICAL SALESMAN AND NEPHEW OF LATE LOCAL MUSLIM LEADER WAS SHOT AND CRITICALLY WOUNDED BY SINGLE ASSASSIN IN FRONT OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES. ON THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 16 A 75-YEAR-OLD FORMER COURT EMPLOYEE WAS SHOT TO DEATH ON ASMARA STREET. THIS THIRD VICTIM WAS A NATIVE OF WOLLO PROVINCE WHO RESIDED IN ASMARA FOR OVER 20 YEARS. HE WAS ALSO WIDELY KNOWN AS AN INFORMANT OF THE EPMG. ON JULY 17 A YOUNG MAN ATTENDING THE FUNERAL OF THE THIRD VICTIM WAS SHOT TO DEATH DURING THE SERVICE BY A SINGLE ASSASSIN.

3. REPORTS INDICATE THAT ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO SIXTEEN ALLEGED EPMG INFORMANTS WERE "WARNED" BY THE ELF TO DESIST FROM THEIR INFORMANT ACTIVITIES. AT LEAST FOUR OF THE SIX VICTIMS (INCLUDING TWO REPORTED IN REFTTEL) ARE THOUGHT TO BE AMONG THE SIXTEEN.

4. ALL REPORTS INDICATE THAT ASSASSINS ARE MEMBERS OF ELF WHO ARE WELL TRAINED FOR ASSASSINATION MISSIONS. REPORTS FURTHER INDICATE THAT KILLERS ARE SUPPORTED BY BACKUP ASSASSINS SHOULD THEY FAIL IN THEIR ATTACK OR TO PREVENT POLICE INTERVENTION. ALL VICTIMS ARE BELIEVED TO BE MUSLIM, AS ELF CONSIDERS INFORMERS WHO ARE BROTHER MUSLIMS TO BE PARTICULARLY CONTEMPTIBLE.

5. COMMENT: CONGEN WILL MONITOR CLOSELY APPARENT ELF CAMPAIGN AGAINST INFORMANTS. ADDRESSEES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THIS CAMPAIGN IS DISTINCTLY SEPARATE FROM THE RECENT KIDNAPPING OF CISCO TWO.
SHERRY

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